



# BIG CREEK KENNELS

Champion Bloodlines English & French Bulldogs

Senators of the Agriculture Committee:

RE: SB157 Kansas Pet Animal Act

My husband and I have been Licensed animal breeders for 8 years. We are a Five Star Kansas Kennel. We live in Erie, Kansas. I serve on the Board of Kansas Pet Professionals. We also attend as many educational conferences as possible each year. I worked as a Vet Technician for over 10 years in preparation for owning and operating our Kennel. We raise French bull dogs, English Bull dogs and Yorkshire Terriers. We spend most of our day and nights caring for our dogs and puppies. It is very rewarding providing families with loving, loyal companions. We also raise Gelbvieh cattle. We take 100% of our income from our farm and Kennel. It is what we do and we wouldn't have it any other way.

We do have concerns regarding SB157 and how it will effect us and other hard working Kansas Kennels.

The Ag Department wants 600,000 for this program. Never in the past 22 years have they needed even 500,000. The law was never intended to be FEE FUNDED. The tax paying citizens asked and rallied for this law, thus they are suppose to pay the bigger percentage with their taxes through State General Fund monies. The purposed fees we feel are excessive, We have fewer Licensed facilities paying in, possibly we save funds by cutting personal. After considering all other options If a fee increase is deemed necessary please keep it reasonable.

In regard to premises inspection, one premieres should be one fee 47-1721 (f) needs to be reinstated into law.

In regards to the Advisory Board, Those on the Board need to belong to an organization, thus they represent more than just their personal views on the board. The private citizen needs to remain a private citizen with no link, as they can bring different view points to the board. The research facility representatives needs to be an employer or owner of a research facility that is licensed by the state of Kansas. This is a Kansas law, not federal or international.

Sincerely,

620-433-1487

Michelle Russell

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Erie, KS 66521

Senate Agriculture Committee

Date: 2-6-13

Attachment # 6-1

*Michelle Russell, Breeder*